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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 05 2004

OFFICIAL

Applicant : Russell A. Houser et al. Art Unit : 3711
Serial No. : 10/050,944 Examiner : Raleigh W. Chiu
Filed : January 22, 2002
Title : Athletic Devices and Other Devices with Superelastic Components

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT WITH PETITION FOR A TWO
MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

In the Election of Species Requirement dated October 2, 2003, the Office Action states that the claims are directed to the following patentably distinct species: Figs. 3a-3c, Fig. 3e, Fig. 3f, Fig. 3g, Fig. 3h, Fig. 3i-3k, Fig. 3l, Figs. 3m-3n, and Fig. 3o. The Office Action requires the Applicants to elect a species for prosecution on the merits and state which claims are readable upon the species elected. Accordingly, applicants elect the species of Figs. 3m-3n for prosecution on the merits. Claims 13, 15-21, 25, 30, 35, and 36 are readable upon the species embodied in Figs. 3m-3n.

Applicants request a two month extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 through and including January 2, 2004 to reply to the Election of Species Requirement. Applicants note that the USPTO was closed on January 2, 2004 and that Monday, January 5, 2004, was the first business day following January 2, 2004. As such, a two month extension of time is proper. The USPTO is authorized to charge deposit account 502923 for the \$210 two month extension of time fee for a small entity.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. If there are any additional fees or credits due, the USPTO is authorized to charge or credit deposit account 502923 accordingly. Please contact the undersigned if there are any questions about this response.

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Applicant : RUSSELL A. HOUSER et al.
Serial No. : 10/050,944
Filed : January 22, 2002
Page : 2

Client's Reference No. 006001

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

January 5, 2004William D. Hare

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below and I have a reasonable basis to expect that the correspondence will be transmitted on or before the date indicated.

Date of Deposit

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William D. HareWilliam D. Hare

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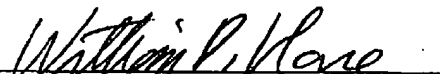
TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	FROM: WILLIAM D. HARE	JAN 05 2004
FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9302	DATE: JANUARY 5, 2004	OFFICIAL
TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCL. COVER: 3		
Application No.: 10/050,944		
Filing Date: January 22, 2002		
First Named Inventor: Russell A. Houser		
Attorney Docket No.: 006001		
Examiner: Raleigh W. Chiu		

Please find enclosed:

(1) Response to Election of Species Requirement with request for a two month extension of time and authorization to charge the deposit account.

Please contact the undersigned at (609) 240-2533 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


William D. Hare
Reg. No. 44,739**Confidentiality Note:**

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